

AMENDMENT TO THE DRAWINGS

A replacement sheet is provided to correct the indicator lines for numerals 10, 12, 14, 16
and 100.

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REMARKS

Correction to the Drawings

The Office Action stated that the indicator lines regarding 10, 12, 14, 16, 100 were cross-hatched. The indicator lines have been redrawn as solid lines.

Rejection of the Claims

Claims 1 – 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Patrick. The Office Action stated that Patrick disclosed the limitation of colored streaks extending through the textured surface since “slight colored streaking throughout is inherent in extruded plastic materials due to material and mixing variations, and in fact is very difficult to eliminate particularly when virgin material is not used. See column 2 lines 55-58.” Patrick however does not disclose any colored streaking at all. Patrick does disclose using recycled milk and beverage containers. However, this mere statement is not sufficient to support the allegation that streaking is inherent in the use of such recycled containers. Further, as this limitation has been amended to add the limitation that the colored streaking simulates wood grain. This limitation is clearly not disclosed or anticipated in any form by Patrick. Thus claims 1 – 9 are not anticipated by Patrick.

New claims 29 – 37 have been added. New claim 29 includes the limitation of a non-embossed textured surface. Embossing a surface adds substantial stress to a plastic product. This mechanical treatment can cause defects and stress to the product which can decrease the product life. Additionally the embossing process adds substantially to the cost of the product. The invention as set forth in claim 29 provides a non-embossed surface with texturing that substantially increases the life and durability of the product as well as reducing the cost of manufacturing of the product. Patrick does not disclose, anticipate or teach a non-embossed textured surface. Thus claims 29 – 37 are not anticipated by Patrick.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned if further discussions would advance the prosecution of this application.

Date: 11/16/05

Respectfully submitted,

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